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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/628,247	KAWAAI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Sung H. Pak	2874	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address.*--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to preliminary amendment filed 7/29/2003.

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.

3. The drawings filed on 29 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.

4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>0703</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Preliminary amendment filed 7/29/2003 has been entered.

Information Disclosure Statement

Information disclosure statement filed 7/29/2003 has been considered by the examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-8 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

A rod integrator is well known and common in the art. Also, rod integrators comprising a quadrangular prismatic light guiding member or a quadrangular tubular member is known in the art.

Strobl et al. (US 2004/0126077 A1), Schmidt et al. (US 2002/0114573 A1) and Wagner (US 2002/0118946 A1) disclose quadrangular tubular integrator devices having a light guiding portion defined by four reflective surfaces. Okamori et al. (US 6,139,156) and Levis et al (US 5,829,858) disclose prismatic integrator member having tapered portion coupled with non-tapered portions. Magarill (US 5,625,738) and Chiu et al. (US 5,777,789) disclose quadrangular integrator devices which may have a prismatic member OR a tubular member for providing a light guiding element.

However, none of the prior art fairly teaches or suggests such a rod integrator device having, inter alia, a quadrangular prismatic light guiding member and a quadrangular tubular member, wherein one end of the tubular member surrounds and contacts one end of the prismatic

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member in a pinwheel arrangement as claimed in the instant application. Also, none of the prior art fairly teaches or suggests a method of manufacturing such a rod integrator device.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

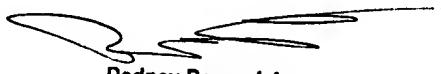
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sung H. Pak whose telephone number is (571) 272-2353. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday, 9AM-5PM.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sung H. Pak
Examiner
Art Unit 2874


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Rodney Bovernick
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800